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Security Council

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Letter dated 18 November 2004 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I write with reference to my letter of 25 August 2004 (S/2004/691). The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached fourth report from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex). I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Andrey I. **Denisov**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

[Original: Spanish]

Note verbale dated 16 November 2004 from the Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Committee and takes this opportunity to refer to the note dated 16 July 2004, in which the Committee asked Venezuela urgently to address aspects which remained outstanding and which should be incorporated into the internal legislation.

In that connection, the Committee will find attached a document entitled "International instruments regarding terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime" (see enclosure). In addition, the Committee's offer of technical assistance has been transmitted to the competent national authority.

Enclosure

International instruments regarding terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime

International anti-terrorism instruments to which Venezuela is a party

In the framework of the United Nations:

1. International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, concluded on 18 December 1979.

   Venezuela acceded to the Convention on 13 December 1988.

2. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, Montreal, 1971.

   Venezuela ratified the Convention on 21 November 1983.

3. Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft, concluded in Tokyo on 14 September 1963.

   Venezuela ratified the Convention on 4 February 1983.

4. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, The Hague, 16 December 1970.

   Venezuela ratified the Convention on 7 July 1983.

5. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted in 1997.

   Venezuela signed the Convention on 23 September 1998 and ratified it on 22 September 2003.

6. International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, adopted in New York on 9 December 1999.

   Venezuela signed the Convention on 16 November 2001 and ratified it on 22 September 2003.

In the framework of the Organization of American States:

1. Convention to Prevent and Punish the Acts of Terrorism Taking the Forms of Crimes against Persons and Related Extortion That Are of International Significance, adopted in Washington, D.C., on 2 February 1971.

   Venezuela ratified the Convention on 11 July 1973.

2. Inter-American Convention against Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States on 3 June 2002.

   Venezuela acceded to the Convention on 4 June 2002. The National Assembly adopted the Act approving the Convention on 25 September 2003. The Convention was ratified on 23 January 2004.

International instrument relating to terrorism signed, but not ratified, by Venezuela

In the framework of the United Nations:

Protocol on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, adopted in Montreal on 24 February 1988.

Venezuela acceded to the Protocol on 24 February 1988. The Office of the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began consultations with each of the competent national bodies on 7 May 2003 and repeated its requests in July 2003. So far, the following have indicated that they are in favour: the Office of the Public Prosecutor (2 July 2003), the Office of the Ombudsman (10 July 2003) and the Office of the Attorney General (9 December 2003). Replies are still awaited from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Justice, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Energy and Mines. Those national authorities will be asked again for their views.

International anti-terrorism instruments to which Venezuela has not yet acceded

In the framework of the United Nations:

1. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 14 December 1973.

   The National Assembly passed the Act approving the Convention on 6 May 2004; promulgation by the President (assent and publication in the *Diario Oficial*) is pending. The Office of the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs established the instrument of accession to the Convention, which has been signed by the President and endorsed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Once the Act approving the Convention is published in the *Diario Oficial* the instrument of ratification will be transmitted to the Permanent Mission of Venezuela to the United Nations in New York.

2. Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted in Vienna on 3 March 1980.

   In May 2003, the Office of the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began a process of internal consultations with various government bodies to determine whether Venezuela should accede to the Convention. Once the replies and reactions of the bodies concerned are received, the matter will be referred to the National Assembly.

3. Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, adopted in Rome on 10 March 1988.

   In May 2003, the Office of the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began a process of internal consultations with various government bodies to determine whether Venezuela should accede to the Convention. Once the replies and reactions of the bodies concerned are received, the matter will be referred to the National Assembly.

4. Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, adopted in Rome on 10 March 1988.

   In May 2003, the Office of the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began a process of internal consultations with various government bodies to determine whether Venezuela should accede to the Protocol. Once the replies and reactions of the bodies concerned are received, the matter will be referred to the National Assembly.

5. Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection, adopted on 1 March 1991.

   In May 2003, the Office of the Legal Adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began a process of internal consultations with various government bodies to determine whether Venezuela should accede to the Convention. Once the replies and reactions of the bodies concerned are received, the matter will be referred to the National Assembly.

International anti-money-laundering instruments to which Venezuela is a party

In the framework of the United Nations:

1. United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, of 1988 (contains provisions on money-laundering).

   In force.

In the framework of the Organization of American States:

1. Model Regulations concerning Laundering Offenses of the Organization of American States Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (OAS/CICAD), adopted at the OAS General Assembly in 1998.

   In force.

International instruments relating to transnational organized crime to which Venezuela is a party

In the framework of the United Nations:

1. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, concluded on 14 December 2000 in Palermo, Italy.

   Venezuela signed the Convention on 14 December 2000. It was approved by the National Assembly and published in *Diario Oficial* No. 37.357 of 4 January 2002. The instrument of ratification was deposited at United Nations Headquarters in New York in April 2002.

2. Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, concluded on 15 December 2000 in Palermo, Italy.

   Venezuela acceded to the Protocol on 15 December 2000. It was approved by the National Assembly and published in *Diario Oficial* No. 13.353 of

27 December 2001. The instrument of ratification was deposited at United Nations Headquarters in New York in April 2002.

3. Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, concluded on 15 December 2000 in Palermo, Italy.

The instrument of ratification was deposited at United Nations Headquarters in New York in April 2002.